

portion provided between said first open end and said second open end, said polymeric annular sleeve being completely coated on one of the inside or outside thereof with fabric, wherein said fabric is an aramid fiber fabric.

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55. An open-ended polymeric annular sleeve configured to receive a limb of a wearer and comprising an inside, an outside, a first open end, a second open end, and an intermediate portion provided between said first open end and said second open end, said polymeric annular sleeve being completely coated on one of the inside or outside thereof with fabric, wherein said fabric is a fabric in which bulkable yarns and non-woven sheet substrates are connected.--

SUPPORT FOR AMENDMENTS

Claims 52 and 53 are supported by the specification as originally filed and Claim 22. Claims 54 and 55 are supported by page 18, lines 4-6, page 23, lines 18-19 and 24, and the paragraph bridging pages 27 and 28. No new matter has been entered.

REMARKS

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for examination on the merits, and early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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